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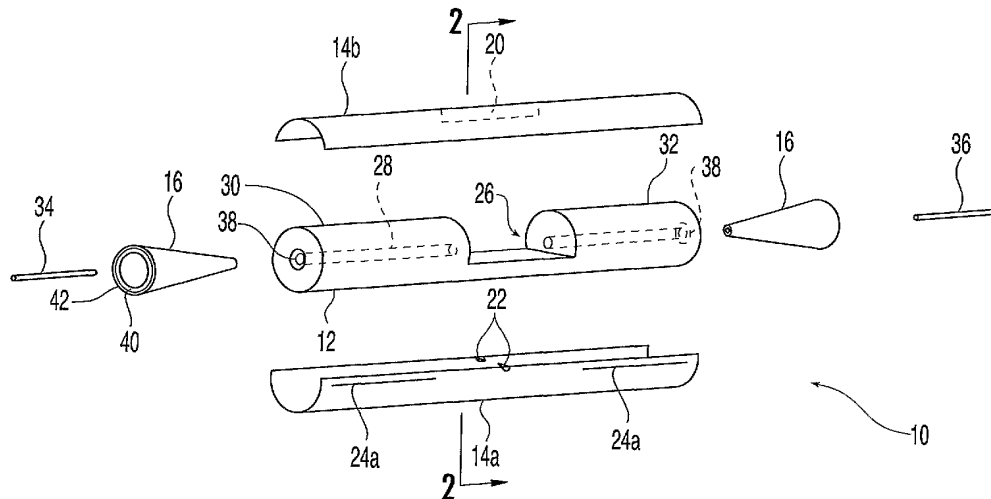
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(54) Title: FIBER OPTIC SPLICE COMPONENT HAVING INTERNAL ELECTRODES



(57) Abstract: A fiber optic splice component is provided with a ferrule (12) having an opening therein, a housing (14a, b) to hold the ferrule, and at least one electrode (22) in the housing for fusing optical fibers inserted into the opening (26). A method and machine to fuse optical fibers in a fiber optic splice component is also provided, with the method and machine being capable of melting a protection element around the fused optical fibers. A splicing ferrule with a lead-in portion (38) at each end of the ferrule is also provided.

WO 2005/085925 A1